

CHAPTER 5 – PUBLIC SERVICES

Introduction

Planning for future growth in Morgan County must take into account the provision of public services. Because all future land use proposals will create a need for expanded public services, the County must evaluate how those services are currently provided in order to ensure adequate provision will be made as growth occurs. If such services are found to be currently inadequate, then the most appropriate first step is to develop solutions to address existing deficiencies.

Due to the absence of zoning designations, it is especially desirable to integrate this chapter into future land use decisions. Without the ability to determine with some certainty the future density and types of proposed land uses, it is important to have an intimate understanding of available public services to determine how each proposal may affect them. These services, which are separate from those outlined in the preceding chapter on infrastructure, typically include general tax funded operations such as schools, police, fire & rescue, libraries, medical, historic & cultural and local government.

Educational Facilities

Educational opportunities are provided for both youth and adult residents of Morgan County by facilities located within the County and surrounding region. This includes head start programs for toddlers, K-12 public system, vocational institutions and numerous small colleges and universities.

Morgan County Public Schools

As with most jurisdictions, possibly the largest publicly-funded service is the Morgan County Schools System. School systems are required to develop and adopt a Master Plan. For Morgan County, a Plan was developed and adopted in 2010 and is referred to as the Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP).

The primary purpose of the Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan for 2010 to 2020 is to establish a planned, organized, systematic approach to providing educational facilities which will support the county school system in the delivery of the best possible education to its students within the parameters of available resources. The content of the CEFP will take into consideration student health and safety, economics of scale, demographics and travel, multi-county projects, curricular improvements, educational innovations and adequacy of space for projected enrollments and will result in the accomplishment of the county's educational goals and objectives. The School System reviews this Plan during the plan period and makes updates as necessary to address annual changes.

The plan provides an outline of the schools as they existed in 2010, methods to address deficiencies, student population projections, and methods to manage increased enrollment over time.

The Morgan County Public School system is made up of 8 public schools, which include a total State-rated capacity of 3,126 students. Enrollment for the system has decreased from a 2005 enrollment of 2,584 to 2,350 in 2015. Based on the 2015 enrollment figures and the State-rated capacities of 3,156 seats, there are an estimated 806 available seats within the system. .

Table 5-1 Morgan County Public Schools

School	District	2015 Enrollment	Capacity	%	Seats Available
Morgan Co. Child Dev. Ctr.*	Cacapon	119	N/A	N/A	N/A
Greenwood Elementary	Timber Ridge	51	70	73%	19
Paw Paw Elementary	Cacapon	98	170	58%	72
Pleasant View Elementary	Sleepy Creek	120	147	82%	27
Widmyer Elementary	Bath	388	525	74%	137
Warm Springs Intermediate	Bath	391	500	78%	109
Warm Springs Middle	Bath	470	672	70%	202
Berkeley Springs High	Bath	735	802	92%	67
Paw Paw High	Cacapon	97	270	36%	173
Total	9 schools	2,350	3,156	70%	806

* Note: Child Development Center is not included in total figures.

Source: Morgan County Public Schools

The Morgan County Board of Education office opened in 1956 and is currently located on Harrison Avenue in Berkeley Springs which was previously operated as North Berkeley Elementary School. Since its original start it added 2 rooms in 1975 and an annex in 1983. Total staffing is currently at 29 full time personnel, and there are plans to add a Maintenance Warehouse for maintenance department services.

The Morgan County Child Development Center, which includes Headstart, is located in what used to be the Great Cacapon Elementary School. This program was created in 1975 as a head start for children before entering kindergarten. Its primary service area is the Berkeley Springs attendance zone, and included a 2015 enrollment of 119 children. There are 57 professional staff and 15 service staff who operate the program. There are no plans for expansion of the facilities or operational needs as the overall growth in the program has experienced an increase from 79 children in 2001 to 119 in 2015.

Greenwood Elementary School located in the Timber Ridge district opened in 1956, and is located on Winchester Grade Road. It was expanded in 1975, adding both office space and additional classrooms. The State-rated capacity is 70, with the school experiencing a decline from 55 students in 2005 to 51 in 2015. Due to budget cuts and constraints, the Morgan County Board of Education made the decision to close this school at the end of the 2016 school year.

Students and staff will be dispersed to other schools within the system. Future use of the building is undetermined at this time.

Paw Paw Elementary School is a split school that feeds directly into Paw Paw High School, and serves grades K-6. It is located on Pirate Circle in Paw Paw and has experienced a decline in enrollment from 120 in 2005 to 98 in 2015. The school has a State rated capacity of 170 students. The current enrollment is served by 16 professional and 6 service staff.

Pleasant View Elementary School, located on Martinsburg Road in the Sleepy Creek district, is currently under capacity at 120 students. There are no plans for any future additions beyond the single addition completed in 1989, which expanded the school during a period of higher growth in this area of the County. The total staffing is 10 professional and 6 service personnel.

Widmyer Elementary School is the largest elementary school in the County, serving 363 students in grades K-2 in 2015. This attendance area was originally served by North Berkeley Elementary School until the new Warm Springs Intermediate School opened in 2005 to serve grades 3-5. This school received a new gym in 2005. The current staffing is 30 professional and 19 service personnel.

Warm Springs Intermediate School, the newest elementary school which opened on Warm Springs Way in the Bath district in 2004, serves grades 3-5 for total student enrollment of 391 in 2015. This number has decreased from 530 in 2001. This school, which operates with 30 professional and 12 service staff, serves the Berkeley Springs attendance zone.

Warm Springs Middle School is the only traditional 6-8 middle school in the County. This school is the second most recent addition to the system, opening in 1998 and adding 4 additional classrooms in 2003. Enrollment has not reached the 672 student State-rated capacity; instead it has steadily declined from 572 in 2005 to 470 in 2015. It is fed by Warm Springs Intermediate and Pleasant View and Greenwood elementary schools. It is served by 42 professional and 13 service staff.

Berkeley Springs High School is the single largest school in the County system at 802 State-rated capacity. At 735 students in its 2015 enrollment figures, it does have some room to accept additional growth in its feeder area. The school is also one of the oldest in the system, opening in 1939 on Concord Street in the Bath district. Since that time, it has received numerous upgrades including expansions in 1975 and 2001, Arts and Humanities programs in 1963, a new gymnasium in 1975 and a vocational building in 1986. The school operates with 56 professional and 15 service staff, which is the largest number of personnel at any one school in the system.

Paw Paw High School is a joint middle and high school, including grades 7-12. Rated to handle 270 students, this school, which opened in 1956, has a current enrollment of 97 students. The School includes 10 professional and 3 support staff. Its service area includes much of the Cacapon district. The school received an expansion to include shop and band programs in 1960. However, as enrollment has remained steady since 2001 there are no current plans for future expansion.

Table 5-2 Morgan County Public School System Services

School	Acreage	Facilities	Professional	Service
Morgan Co. Child Dev. Ctr.	2	1 building	57	15
Greenwood Elementary	8	2 buildings, play fields	8	4
Paw Paw Elementary	15*	1 building, play fields	17	6
Pleasant View Elementary	5	1 building, play fields	15	5
Widmyer Elementary	12	1 building, play fields	37	18
Warm Springs Intermediate	100**	1 Building, play fields	34	12
Warm Springs Middle	100**	1 building, play fields	46	14
Berkeley Springs High	8	5 buildings, 1 varsity field	57	15
Paw Paw High	15*	1 building, 2 varsity fields	15	2
Total	150		286	91

* Paw Paw Elementary and High schools share a campus of 15 acres and fields

** Warm Springs Intermediate and Middle share a campus of 100 acres and fields

Source: Morgan County Public Schools

Vocational School

The James Rumsey Center, located in Martinsburg serves high school students from the Eastern Panhandle and post-secondary students from the quad-state region. The Adult Basic Education Center is available for students to upgrade or enhance their skills as well as prepare for the civil service test, the CDL test and the GED. Adult and community education classes, online open enrollment programs along with specialized business and industry seminars are also available.

Colleges

There is one college offering classes in the Pines Opportunity Center Building that is owned by the Morgan County Commission. This building is the site of the old War Memorial Hospital building on Fairfax Street.

Table 5-3 Local Colleges

College	Location	Distance	Degrees
Shepherd College	Shepherdstown, WV	34	Bachelor, Masters
Shenandoah University	Winchester, VA	28	Bachelor, Masters
Frostburg University	Frostburg, MD	56	Bachelor, Masters
Allegheny College	Cumberland, MD	48	Associate
WVU Eastern Division	Martinsburg, WV	22	Bachelor
Valley College of Technology	Martinsburg, WV	22	Associate
Mountain State University	Martinsburg, WV	22	Bachelor
Blue Ridge Community & Technical	Martinsburg, WV	22	Associate
Blue Ridge Community & Technical	Berkeley Springs, WV	1	Associate

Libraries

The Morgan County Library, which serves the entire County population, moved to its present location on Congress Street in 1998. It was originally opened in 1979 on Fairfax Street. It is served by 1 full-time and 3 part-time staff and 20 active volunteers. Circulation has increased from approximately 25,500 volumes reviewed by more than 15,000 patrons in 2001 to nearly 29,000 in 2015 being viewed by approximately 22,000 patrons. The local budget share, which supports funding of this important community resource, is \$18,000. The primary funding source, however, is from State funds of more than \$80,000 per year.

As circulation increases, the Library has determined that it will need additional future operating funds to cover the increasing costs for heating as well as additional shelf space for display of the increasing amount of materials made available to the public.

The Paw Paw Public Library serves western Morgan County and adjacent Maryland areas. The library moved from Winchester Street to Moser Avenue in Paw Paw in 1977 and consists of two part-time staff. Circulation has increased from approximately 4,981 patrons checking out 11,000 volumes in 2005 to 11,000 visits and over 1,300 registered borrowers circulating just over 27,800 items in 2015 with a budget of \$29,792 from local and state funds.

The building was expanded in 1997 and future plans for further expansion include an addition for a History Room. This will add to the number of resources offered by the library, which includes internet access, various reading and viewing media, story time and summer reading programs.

Police

There are three police departments that serve Morgan County. These departments include the Town of Bath Police Department, Morgan County Sheriff's Department and Paw Paw Police Department. There is also a West Virginia State Police Department office located in Berkeley Springs that provides additional service to the County. Although the Sheriff's Department serves the county as a whole the Town of Bath and Paw Paw police departments are limited to being the service provider for the jurisdictions and communities they are governed by.

The West Virginia State Police office provides 4 uniformed officers and 1 secretary to serve Morgan County for the purpose of law enforcement which includes investigation of criminal activity and accident reports. The field office is located on Valley Road in Berkeley Springs. There are no current plans for any future expansion to operations.

The Morgan County Sheriff's Department is located at 111 Fairfax Street next to the Morgan County Courthouse and provides 1 sheriff, 9 deputies and 2 secretaries. The department serves the entire County population both inside and out of the corporate limits of Bath and Paw Paw by providing such services as law enforcement, court security, transport of prisoner/mental health

detainees and serving of papers. There are no identified needs outlined by this department at the present time.

The Town of Bath Police Department is located on Wilkes Street in the Town of Bath. It serves an estimated town population of 650 residents as well as numerous businesses. There is no expansion planned for either personnel or construction.

The Paw Paw Police Department, originally located in the old jail on Lee Street in Paw Paw, dates as far back as 1891. It presently holds office on Winchester Street and consists of one full-time officer occasionally supported by a trainee. This department serves an estimated municipal population of 524 and has no identified plans for expansion in the foreseeable future.

Table 5-4 E-911 Dispatch Calls For Service

Calls for Service	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Law Enforcement	8,991	8,142	8,265	8,249	8,644	7,811
Fire Department	1,075	1,032	1,107	1,166	1,142	1,362
Emergency Medical Service	1,670	1,699	1,783	1,957	2,020	2,085
Total	11,736	10,873	11,155	11,372	11,806	11,258

Source: E-911 Dispatch Reports

As population grows and development expands across the County, adequate staffing, especially for the Sheriff’s department, is the primary concern. A policing standard of 1 police officer per 1,000 persons is typically used to measure police staffing levels. With a 2010 population of more than 17,000 people, being served by approximately 18 police personnel for all departments combined, staffing appears slightly inadequate at this time and additional personnel will be needed to address future growth.

To accomplish meeting the long-term needs, especially for the County Sheriff’s Department, periodic review of police staffing levels should be conducted to maintain a sufficient number of officers in relation to a growing population. This will ensure that there is adequate staff to provide efficient response times in meeting police emergencies.

Fire & Emergency Medical Service

Morgan County is served by four Volunteer Fire Companies. These companies include Berkeley Springs Volunteer Fire Company, Great Cacapon VFC, Paw Paw Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. and South Morgan VFD. In addition to these companies providing some level of emergency rescue service, the County is also served by the Morgan County Rescue Service, which specializes in EMS operation throughout the County.

The Berkeley Springs Volunteer Fire Company, currently located on North Mercer Street in Berkeley Springs, originally opened in 1893. It moved to its present location and added a new building complete with 3 bays to house necessary equipment to serve approximately 12,000 of the County’s 17,541 residents and numerous businesses. There are no paid personnel, but the

company has grown from 45 active volunteers in 1980 to 70 active volunteers now who provide fire suppression, emergency medical and other services to the community. The service area includes the Sleepy Creek region, much of the northern Central Valley region as well as the US Rt. 522 corridor.

The Great Cacapon Volunteer Fire Company is located on Spring Street in the unincorporated community of Great Cacapon. The facility originally opened in 1946 and was expanded in 1969 to add 2 engine bays to the west side of the original building, and again in 1977 to add 3 bays on the east side. It is served by 30 active volunteers who provide service from Bennett Lane to Fisher's Bridge and West of Cacapon Mountain to the Potomac River. This service area includes an approximate population of 2,000 residents and a small number of businesses in a mostly rural setting. Its facility and some of its equipment were destroyed by a fire in July of 2016. Planning and fundraising are underway to replace the building and equipment.

The Paw Paw Volunteer Fire Company Inc., located on Moser Avenue in Paw Paw serves approximately 2,500 to 3,000 residents and numerous businesses in the southwestern region of the County, as well as serving 1,500 to 2,000 residents in neighboring Hampshire County to the west. Service to this growing area and to the Town is accomplished by 29 active volunteers, most of whom are trained in both EMS and Fire response. Although the Company moved from its original 1938 location on Winchester Street, it has identified a need for a new station at its current Moser Avenue location. Active volunteers have almost doubled from 15 in 1980 to 29 in 2015.

The South Morgan County Volunteer Fire Dept. Inc., located on Winchester Grade Road in southern Morgan County, serves one of the fastest-growing areas in the county, which includes the Rock Gap and Timber Ridge districts. The company was created in 1970 and has since made building additions in 1980, 1988, and 1998, as well as added equipment and apparatus in keeping up with the changing regulatory requirements of State and Federal laws. It currently includes an active volunteer staff of 18.

The Morgan County Rescue Service moved from its original location to Valley Road in Berkeley Springs in 1998. It opened in 1969 with a Volunteer Board of Directors that went from overseeing more than 25 active volunteers to the current 32 career personnel and 4 active volunteers. Much of the decrease in volunteer participation over time was due to the increased changes in certifications required of career personnel responding to EMS scenes and the recognition by local government of the increased costs of this regulatory process. This department serves the entire County and provides 911 emergency medical service, emergency transport and limited routine transfers related to all emergency situations and scenes. Its calls for service have steadily increased from 1,670 in 2010 to 2,085 in 2015. As the need for this service becomes more specialized and additional personnel are required, the department has identified at minimum operational goals of a full 24/7 second crew and obtaining benefits for retention of employees from competitive counties. Although there may be additional needs for capital expansion of services and infrastructure, none have been identified at this time.

The Morgan County Office of Emergency Services (OES) is the central dispatch for all calls within the County. Opening in 1969, it is located at 38 Dispatch Lane at the Pines Opportunity

Center property which served as the old War Memorial Hospital complex. It includes a total staff of 15, one OES Director, one 911 Director, 8 full time and 5 part time employees. It receives and routes calls for fire, police, EMS, animal control and other miscellaneous requests for service. During the 2010 and 2015 period, the average call load was 11,366. A continuing need is adequate staffing to cover the call volume for full 24-hour operations. There have been discussions to move the 911 Center to a larger facility at the Pines Opportunity Center.

The County operates on a strong volunteer base for fire and a need to expand its paid personnel for rescue services. The major issues, as outlined by the various companies, include adequate staffing to provide timely response to emergencies and the basic gear and equipment to carry out their duties.

While staffing levels for fire companies appear sufficient to meet current demand in some areas there should be periodic review of service areas to ensure response times keep pace with projected growth. Operating on a system of volunteer service, it will be important for the County to ensure that there are a sufficient number of volunteers properly trained to respond. This could be accomplished through incentives for public employees to respond to daytime calls or retirees interested in supporting fire service.

As outlined by the County Rescue Service and Office of Emergency Service, the need for support of additional paid shifts will continue to increase as growth occurs. This is due in part to the location of new development approved in areas where response time is extended and to the lack of close-by facilities or to inadequate staffing during certain periods to respond to numerous areas at once. To address this issue, funding sources will need to be identified and the number of personnel necessary will need to be evaluated to plan for improvements to the overall network of emergency services.

Medical Services

The new Morgan County War Memorial Hospital opened in April, 2012 and is located along Fairview Drive in Berkeley Springs. The \$30 million, 87,000 square-foot facility includes upgraded technologies throughout, new operating rooms, outpatient rehab, a helipad and ample, convenient parking. It operates under Valley Health Services of Winchester, Virginia and is licensed by the State of West Virginia as a Critical Access Hospital (CAH). War Memorial Hospital has 25 inpatient beds (21 private rooms), 14 long-term care beds and a six-bed emergency department. Currently the hospital employs 150 full-time employees.

Services include a 24-hour emergency department with on-site physicians, inpatient and outpatient surgery, laboratory, radiology (including mammography, ultrasound, bone densitometry, CT, and mobile MRI), respiratory/cardiopulmonary services, rehabilitation services (including physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and cardiac rehab) and home health services. Sub-specialty services are also offered in cardiology, dermatology, ophthalmology, podiatry and urology on a weekly or monthly basis.

Community Physicians of War Memorial Hospital is a division of War Memorial Hospital which provides comprehensive healthcare for adults, including evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of acute illness and chronic conditions like heart disease, diabetes, cancer, kidney disease and related conditions.

Surgical Services of War Memorial Hospital is a division of War Memorial Hospital that provides consultation, diagnosis, surgical and follow-up care for a variety of general surgery, orthopedic surgery and podiatry services including the repair of injury from trauma, removal of diseased tissue/organs, correction of deformities, general orthopedics, sports medicine and surgical interventions for traumatic and chronic conditions and medical and surgical treatment of diseases, injuries and deformities of the foot and ankle.

War Memorial's Center for Rehab & Wellness is located at Berkmore Place in Berkeley Springs. The Center offers outpatient physical therapy, pool physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and therapeutic pool classes as well as personal training and fitness programs.

War Memorial operates two medical office practices, one in Morgan County, Berkeley Springs Internal Medicine and the other in Hancock, MD, Hancock Medical Practice. Other medical offices in Berkeley Springs include Family Medicine of Berkeley Springs, Pediatric and Family Physicians of Morgan County and Tri State Community Health Center. Mountaineer Community Health Center, a federally-qualified health center, operates in Paw Paw.

Other medical services in the community are available at the Morgan County Health Department, Rankin Physical Therapy, and through Shenandoah Valley Medical System. Three dental practices are located in Berkeley Springs. Nursing home care is provided at Berkeley Springs Center and assisted living is available at Autumn Acres Personal Care Center.

Other healthcare facilities in the area provide services to some Morgan county residents. These facilities include Tri-State Medical Center in Hancock, Md., Winchester Medical Center in Winchester, Va., City Hospital in Martinsburg, and Washington County Hospital in Hagerstown, Md.

There are also many regional medical centers that provide additional patient care to Morgan County residents. These centers include River Bend Family Medicine in Hancock, Tri-State Medical Center also in Hancock, Winchester Medical Center, Washington County Health Systems, Jefferson Memorial Hospital and Berkeley Medical Center (City Hospital) in Martinsburg.

Historic & Cultural

Community cultural groups include a history museum, active historical society, public library, quilt group and several community performance organizations including a concert band, quilters' guild and choir and theater groups. History-related activities and organizations are detailed in the Historic Preservation chapter. All of the rich cultural infrastructure, impressive for a small, rural area, is an important draw for the tourism industry.

Due to substantial arts activities instigated by the community-based Morgan Arts Council, founded in 1977, Berkeley Springs was named West Virginia's first certified arts community and has received abundant state, regional and national recognition as an art town. This reputation has in turn acted as a magnet for artists to relocate in the county and retirees and second home owners to choose Morgan County because of its "art scene". Nearly 1% of the population is working artists, musicians, dancers and writers. There are numerous opportunities for these folks to showcase their talents including county-wide studio tours, gallery shows, music venues and an annual book festival.

The award-winning Morgan Arts Council (MAC) currently has nearly 500 members and since its founding has delivered nearly 60,000 direct arts experiences including concerts, classes, gallery shows, community theater, performances, public art projects, digital media broadcasts, literary events and youth art programs in and out of the schools. Consistent with increased participation and expansion of programs, the organization has added full- and part-time professional staff and maintained an operational annual budget of nearly \$250,000.

MAC owns and is renovating the Ice House arts and community center, a four-story, former storage building constructed in 1911, located in downtown Berkeley Springs that was gifted to the council by US Silica in 1996. The currently renovated floors of the building provide a Great Hall, classrooms, dance studio, office, kitchen, media center and gallery. The building is located at the corner of Independence and Mercer Street.

Travel Berkeley Springs (TBS) is the convention and visitors bureau for the County, with its main office located in the Chamber of Commerce office on Fairfax Street in Berkeley Springs, and having nearly 100 members. Half of its budget is funded through hotel/motel tax revenues. From its 2004 report committee, members developed several goals and strategies centered around two distinct objectives: protecting the historic character of Berkeley Springs and preserving the scenic wilderness throughout the County.

In 2006 the Town of Bath established a volunteer Historic Landmark Commission to facilitate formal identification of historically eligible and significant sites in and around Berkeley Springs and to develop and implement strategies to preserve and protect them. After conducting an Historical Survey which identified 236 contributing structures within the town limits of Bath, the Bath Historic District was accepted onto the National Register of Historic Places in 2009. Identifying plaques were placed on more than 50 of the most prominent structures and several workshops have been conducted to educate property owners on historic tax credits available for restoration of properties within the district.

Local Government

Morgan County

Morgan County consists of a Commission form of government, which includes 3 commissioners elected every 6 years at large. It operates on an approximately 4 million-dollar budget which

includes many of the public services provided across the County. All other services such as schools and roads are covered by other entities or State funding sources.

Table 5-5 County Government Officials

Name	No. of Officials	Elected/Appointed	Term
County Commission	3	Elected	6 years
County Clerk	1	Elected	6 years
Assessor	1	Elected	4 years
Sheriff	1	Elected	4 years
Circuit Clerk	1	Elected	6 years
Prosecuting Attorney	1	Elected	4 years
Circuit Judges	2	Elected	8 years
Magistrates	2	Elected	4 years
Board of Education	5	Elected	6 years
Board of Health	5	Appointed	5 years
Public Service Commission	3	Appointed	6 years
Planning Commission	11	Appointed	3 years
Economic Development Corp.	15	Appointed	3 years
Hospital Board of Directors	9	Appointed	3 years
Parks and Rec. Commission	9	Appointed	3 years
Library Board	5	Appointed	5 years
Commission on Aging	20	Appointed	2 years
Farmland Preservation	7	Appointed	4 years
Local Emergency Planning Comm.	15	Appointed	3 years

Source: Morgan County Government

The Morgan County Board of Education and the Warm Springs Public Service District are considered part of special purpose local government. The elected Board of Education receives funding primarily from local property tax revenues collected by the State. The Warm Springs Public Service District Board is appointed by the Morgan County Commission and oversees the provision of sewer service within the Public Service District, which is supported by customer fees and by State and Federal grants and loans.

Judges of the Circuit Court and Magistrates are elected officials who are funded by the State. Other agencies receive some financial and in-kind assistance from the County Commission, but are primarily funded by other sources such as private donations and State and Federal funds.

Town of Bath

The Town of Bath is governed by a Mayor and five council members who are elected for two-year terms. The Town Recorder, who maintains town records and financial reports, is also elected for a two-year term. The Council is organized into seven functional committees, which are composed of three members each. The committees are finance, public works, water, ordinances, cemetery, grants and public safety. The Chief of Police is an appointed position

without a specified term. There is also an Historic Landmarks Commission made up of six appointed members.

Town of Paw Paw

The Town of Paw Paw is governed by a Mayor and five Council members who are elected for two-year terms. The Town Recorder is also elected for a two-year term. The Council is organized into five functional committees of three members each. These committees are police, water and sewer, streets and alleys, cemetery, ordinance and grievance. A sixth committee, the finance committee, is composed of all five Council members. A nine-member parks and recreation commission is appointed by the Town Council to oversee operation and maintenance of the municipal park.

Table 5-6 Municipal Government Officials

<u>Name</u>	<u>No. of Officials</u>	<u>Elected/Appointed</u>	<u>Term</u>
Town of Bath			
Mayor	1	Elected	2 years
Council	5	Elected	2 years
Town Recorder	1	Elected	2 years
Chief of Police	1	Appointed	N/A
Historic Landmark Commission	6	Appointed	1 year
Planning Commission	5	Appointed	N/A
Town of Paw Paw			
Mayor	1	Elected	2 years
Council	5	Elected	2 years
Town Recorder	1	Elected	2 years
Chief of Police	1	Appointed	N/A
Planning Commission	9	Appointed	N/A
Parks and Recreation Committee	9	Appointed	N/A

Source: Morgan County Government

Animal Control

The Morgan County Animal Control office is operated by the Morgan County Commission office and funded by Morgan County government. Officers are on duty 7 days a week, 8:00 a.m. until 9:00p.m. Their office is located at 5506 Martinsburg Road, Berkeley Springs. It consists of two full-time officers, 2 per diem officers and one part-time kennel/office assistant.

Goals and Objectives

Goals

The goals for enhancement of public services in Morgan County focus on education, public safety, general government and the health and welfare of its citizens. They include:

- Increasing educational opportunities across the spectrum of public schools, higher education and technical training institutions;
- Promoting the location of public schools in targeted growth areas;
- Ensuring adequate access to emergency services in areas of new development;
- Promoting expansion of local health care, including mental health services, and recognizing the need to serve both residents and visitors, as well as an aging population; and
- Supporting coordination among local government entities and regional planning organizations in efforts to identify, designate and plan for future public service needs.

Objectives

Furtherance of these goals can be attained by achieving the following objectives:

- Supporting the Morgan County Comprehensive Education Facilities Plan and encouraging the Morgan County Board of Education to consider the growth management goals and objectives in the Morgan County Planning Commission's Comprehensive Plan;
- Working with the library system to identify the need for expansion of library services and facilities;
- Evaluating and supporting appropriate recommendations from local public safety agencies relating to the integration of public safety services into new development;
- Continuing efforts in the expansion of a countywide emergency service system, while promoting smaller, more localized emergency services operational hubs to ensure adequate coverage throughout the jurisdiction;
- Supporting arrangements to improve working relationships among police, fire and EMS organizations both within the county and among local jurisdictions;
- Working toward adequate disaster planning by supporting efforts to provide all public safety services with current homeland security training, and citizens and public officials with necessary information about disaster planning and management;
- Continuing updating countywide hazard mitigation plans;
- Supporting development of a directory of local health care network providers and wellness offerings;
- Encouraging the improvement of medical transport access, and the referral process to major health care centers;
- Promoting the expansion of web-based access to local government information;
- Supporting use of public schools for non-school related activities consistent with the legal and generally accepted use of public buildings;

- Encouraging construction of an improved animal control facility and improvement in the county's animal control operations and regulatory system; and
- Continuing to support development of a global information system (GIS) mapping capability for Morgan County to create charts showing property boundaries, natural features, sensitive areas, infrastructure, and emergency services sites, etc.